PROJECT TITLE

Roadside Archaeological Site Inventory in District 7

Project Location Map



Project EA: 24660K PPNO: 3549

Project Location: Throughout District 7

Co/Rte/KP/PM: N/A

Project Description: Roadside archaeological

site inventory in Caltrans right-of-way, District 7

Project Scope: Approximately 450 miles

of rural right-of-way will be surveyed. All data will be entered into the Caltrans

GIS database.

Existing Funding: IIP: \$690,000

RIP: \$0 Other: \$0

Future Funding Need: \$0

Total Estimated Cost: \$690,000

Project Schedule: July 2004 – Dec 2006

PROJECT INFORMATION

Background: Caltrans proposes inventorying archaeological sites within the right of way of State rural conventional highways in District 7 by means of a records search of existing site information at the statewide archeological information centers and an on-foot survey of an estimated 80% of the total rural conventional highway miles in the District. The project also include electronic entry of site data from the records search and survey as the data are generated into the Caltrans GIS database. These data will also be provided to the appropriate archaeological information centers and the State Office of Historic Preservation's California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS).

The project scope includes approximately 450 miles in District 7. The project is being proposed for the Transportation-related Archaeology Plan under the Archaeological Planning and Research category. While this TEA project is a stand-alone project in District 7, it is the same in scope and product to ongoing TEA projects for archaeological site inventory which have been completed in Districts 2, 5, and 9, are nearing completion in District 10, and have been approved for Districts 4 & 11. This proposed project in District 7 would be part of the ongoing process of completing the inventory and data gaps within the Caltrans right-of-way statewide.

Project Need: The proposed project is for inventory entirely within the State highway right-of-way. By virtue of creation of a database for sites inventoried, the project will have direct beneficial effects on Caltrans' ability to manage and protect its cultural resources, to facilitate encroachment permits for local agency and developers, to respond

to emergency repair projects, and, in the very long-term, to plan transportation systems.

Project Purpose: The project will enable Caltrans to provide responsible stewardship of resources in its right-of-way pursuant to various state regulations and Governor's Executive Orders. The project benefits local agencies seeking encroachment permits and Native American tribes concerned with protection of their heritage. The project will also add to the State Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)'s database for the California Historical Resource Information System (CHRIS), both in providing site data and in digitizing existing site information along the survey route. The TEA project has these immediate benefits, but also will have long-term benefits in the category of archaeological planning and research by providing information for researchers on site distribution and densities in differing ecological zones.